



# LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM

## *Electronic Crop Update for October 18, 2012*

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**Upcoming Events**

Go to <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm> for a detailed calendar of events including maps via Google calendar! Scroll to the bottom of the page for Google calendar and click on the event. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one! UPCOMING EVENTS are also listed toward the bottom of this Electronic Update.

Please remember to let us know if you have changed or are in the process of changing your email address so we can keep the Electronic Crop Update coming to your inbox!

[Please email Edith at: emb35@cornell.edu.](mailto:emb35@cornell.edu)

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### **INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: Tim Weigle**

*(Editor's note)* Your assistance is requested in the tracking of two invasive species. Our old friend, the Multicolored Asian Ladybeetle and a new pest that is just starting to show up in our area, the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. The BMSB has been shown to be a potentially damaging pest for a number of horticultural and field crops so tracking its location can be very useful to researchers. If you do not have an iPhone, Droid or blackberry to use in tracking the BMSB, you can still help us out by bringing a specimen to either CLEREL or the North East Lab with information on where it was found and we will take it from there. While not part of the Citizen Science project, the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program is still interested in tracking the occurrence of the MALB so I would appreciate an email to let me know when, and where, you find them.



*Image 1. iPhone use for Citizen Science.*

### **Tracking Invasive Insects Using Your iPhone: Join the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Citizen Science Project**

Contact: Peter J. Jentsch, Cornell University's Hudson Valley Laboratory, Highland, NY, 845-691-7117

As the days grow shorter and the evening temperatures cool, hordes of the insect community begin making their way to our doorstep. Reduced light and temperature act as a switch to halt their feeding frenzy, turning now to find

shelter for the winter months that lay ahead. Having stocked up on food reserves, they intend to use our homes as overwintering sites, guest cottages if you will, to increase their chance of survival.

Two invasive insects making their way into our homes include the newly invasive brown marmorated stink bug and the multicolored Asian ladybird beetle. Both are exotic species that hail from regions of China, Korea, and Japan yet readily adapted to climates and habitats in the U.S. They are most commonly found this time of year gathering on the sun-facing exposure of structures, restlessly making their way into the upper rooms and attic of your home. In the spring, they will all leave.



*Image 2. The multicolored Asian ladybird beetle range of body colors. Photos by Howard Russell and Tyler Fox.*

As is the nature of the lady beetle family, Coccinellidae, the multicolored Asian ladybird beetle is considered a beneficial insect, a predator of insect pests, especially fond of aphids. The adult ladybeetle has your storybook red and black color scheme, yet can exhibit a range of body colors from cream to bright red with few to none to many black dots over its abdomen. Asian lady beetles can, however, become troublesome when they damage late season crops such as grape, berry or apple. If aphids

are plentiful, the Asian lady beetles will feast, reproducing successfully to develop high populations, then taking to the wing in swarms toward buildings early in October. Once inside, beetles can become scarce during the colder parts of the winter, hibernating as temperatures drop below 50 degrees F. Although on warmer sunny days, they may awaken to find their way into inhabited areas of the house.

The brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), a *Pentatomid* bug, is often confused with three other home invaders; the western conifer seed bug, boxelder bug and the squash bug. This newcomer to the region gets its name from the brown marbeling pattern it exhibits. The striping on its antennae, striped pattern along the abdomen and smooth shoulders are the key to its identity. It can feed extensively on agricultural crops, causing damage to peach, apple, grape and most vegetable crops in the Mid-Atlantic States in 2010. It has recently become an agricultural pest in the Hudson Valley as well as a homeowner pest as they too escape the cold to move inside buildings during the winter months. Repairing broken screens and excluding insects by sealing cracks around windows, doors, siding, utility pipes, behind chimneys, and underneath the wood fascia and other openings with high quality silicone or silicone-latex caulk is the best method to keep these invasives from entering your home. A portable vacuum with a disposable canister, designated for insect removal, provides for quick disposal of those pesky ones that make it past the front door.

Cornell University's Hudson Valley Laboratory Research Entomologist partnering with Cooperative Extension Specialists hope to collect, verify and document the spread of this invasive species as a way to help residents and agricultural producers understand the stink bug population distribution and lessen its impact. Anyone who has seen this pest is asked to send an image or sample to Cornell Cooperative Extension. Images can be e-mailed to [BMSBProject@cornell.edu](mailto:BMSBProject@cornell.edu). Phones with location software enabled such as iPhones, Androids and BlackBerrys can all geotag photos with GPS locations to help us map the location where your specimen was photographed.

For readers who are interested in joining the Citizen Science BMSB project we are now accepting clear close-up images of the brown marmorated stink bug to track the spread of this new insect to New York State.

If 'live' insect specimens are submitted they should be placed in a small plastic container, such as a

medicine bottle or film canister, with a submission form from the extension's website (<http://hudsonvf.cce.cornell.edu/bmsb1.html>), filled out and mailed to Peter Jentsch, BMSB Project, Cornell Hudson Valley Lab, P.O. Box 727, Highland, N.Y. 12528.

## **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Kevin Martin**

### ***Insurance Costs***

If you're reading this on Thursday, you're missing the highly informative Insurance Forum. As you've seen the past few weeks, insurance is both expensive and complicated. Finding good information can be challenging. Usually the people that know the most about insurance are trying to sell you insurance.

I'm not sure most consumers will see a dramatic change in their health insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act. The ACA makes more dramatic changes at the periphery. The individual market as well as the future of the group market for small businesses has the potential to change. We know all about the tax credits and how that can help you provide coverage to your employees (but not to owners). We don't know what kind of policies you'll actually be purchasing. It is assumed that the introduction of statewide exchanges will make insurance less expensive for individuals and small businesses. We won't know for sure until the exchanges exist, in 2014.

In the meantime, all of this talk about insurance led some growers to ask about Social Security Insurance. With many grape growers already qualifying for Medicaid, SSI is a more relevant topic.



A grower told me that SSI operates based on a mysterious formula that nobody knows. At the time, I did not have a great answer for him. However, in 2012 all information can be found. You just have to know where to look. No insult to this grower, this information was relatively hard to find. The first place to go is SSA.gov. At the government website you can set up an account, review your earning history for accuracy and run your earnings through an html estimator to get an estimate of what your retirement benefits will be.

The estimator works great but suffers from the weakness in the formula. Particularly before the age of 60, the formula requires some information that is unknown. While it does a fairly good job of anticipating inflation, it does a terrible job of accurately predicting future earnings. An excel based formula that allows you to input varying hypotheticals does not do any better at estimating your benefits if you are not planning on changing anything drastically. However, it does a much better job at predicting your retirement benefits when income is volatile or strategically managed. So, for small business owners over the age of 50 an excel based tool can be rather useful.

Find it on our website at: [http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/Business\\_Management/home.htm](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/Business_Management/home.htm) under the heading PRODUCTION PRACTICES WORKSHEETS, *New* – Copy of Estimate SSI. (this is an excel spreadsheet)

You'll just need to enter data in the highlighted cells, while carefully avoiding any cells with formulas. Feel free to enter future anticipated earnings and change your retirement date to see how such changes impact your benefits. If you do not have any experience with Excel, stop by the office or give me a call. I would be happy to walk you through it. The data you need to enter is available at SSA.gov. It is also available on

your annual paper statement that SSA sends most individuals.

**GRAPE CULTURAL PRACTICES: Jodi Creasap-Gee, Ph.D.**

Now is a good time to keep up with the soil tests. (But, really, when *isn't* it?) There is still quite a bit of time between now and leaf drop, when pruning begins. Soil analysis will help narrow the scope of nutrition management for 2013. Recall that the potential for a large crop is likely, based on the growing conditions this year (small crop, hot/dry growing season). Factor in the additional days of photosynthesis prior to the first freeze, and most vineyards should be in good shape to survive the winter and take off with a bang next year. This excludes, of course, Concord vineyards in Niagara County, where drought conditions negatively affected vine growth this season.

Although it is a tad early to start pruning, it might also be a good time to create a plan for pruning vineyard acreage this year. Is this the year you try machine pruning with hand follow-up? Will you attempt machine pruning only? Or perhaps hand pruning is the only way to go. Whichever you decide, running through the numbers certainly would not hurt, especially if poor growth means faster pruning times by hand. It might help to assess vineyard conditions and start making plans now.

**Yield Monitoring in Grapes:** [Click on the picture or this link](#)

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtUXdFVFI4w&feature=plcp>) to see a short video on what CLEREL is doing this harvest season to map yield variation in vineyards.

**Adapting Canopy Sensing Systems into Juice Grape Production webpage:**

<http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/Canopy%20sensing/Canopy%20sensing.htm>



Go to <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm> for a detailed calendar of events including maps via Google calendar. Scroll to the bottom of the page for Google calendar and click on the event. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!

**NEW YORK FARM BUREAU OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS WHO PLAN AN AG-RELATED FUTURE**

Do you know a High School Senior interested in a career in agriculture? If yes, please read the information below and follow the links. Good luck! There is also a link on our [LERGP Home Page](#) for your convenience: <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/>

**Albany, N.Y.** – New York Farm Bureau is encouraging high school seniors who have been involved with agriculture and plan on continuing studies in this field to apply for the New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship sponsored by the New York Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee. Scholarship awards are \$1,500 for first place \$1,200 for second and \$1,000 for third place. The first place winner will be invited to present their essay at a NYFB Spring event.

Students applying must have a family Farm Bureau membership or a Student Farm Bureau membership (a membership application may be included with scholarship enclosures). Students are required to submit a brief essay answering the question, “If you had the power to change something in your community or on your farm, what would you change and why?”

Please click on the links below for MORE INFORMATION!



**The application submission deadline is November 18, 2012.** To nominate someone for the scholarship or to request an application, call 1-800-342-4143 or visit <http://www.nyfb.org> and then scroll down to “Farm Essentials” for scholarship information and the application.

<http://cce.cornell.edu/Ag/AgTeams/2013%20Scholarship%20Brochure.pdf>

<http://cce.cornell.edu/Ag/AgTeams/2012%20Scholarship%20Applications%20due.pdf>

<http://cce.cornell.edu/Ag/AgTeams/2013%20Scholarship%20Application%20Fillin.pdf>

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**SHORT COURSE: CIDER PRODUCTION: PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE**

**DATE:** Monday, December 3, 2012

**LOCATION:** Food Research Laboratory Conference Room, 630 W. North Street, Geneva, NY

**TIME:** 8am–5:00pm

For more information please go to:

<http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/outreach/enology/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&PageID=1067969>

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**VITICULTURE 2013**

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 6, 2013 through Friday, February 8, 2013

**LOCATION:** Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY

**PROGRAM AGENDA (subject to change):** <http://vit2013.com/>

**Wednesday - February 6, 2013**

◆ Rochester Riverside Convention Center  
8:30–10:30am Breakfast & The Big Picture (Plenary Session)  
11:00am–12:00pm Breakout Sessions  
12:15–1:15pm Varietal Tasting and Lunch  
1:30–5:00pm Breakout Sessions  
◆ Hyatt Regency Rochester Hotel  
6:30pm Unity Banquet Reception  
7:00pm Unity Banquet Awards

**Thursday - February 7, 2013**

◆ Rochester Riverside Convention Center  
8:00am Trade Show Opens  
8:30–10:30am Plenary Sessions  
10:30–11:00am Coffee Break on the Show Floor  
11:00am–12:30pm Breakout Sessions  
*Thursday afternoon is dedicated to the Trade Show:*  
12:30–2:00pm Lunch Available on the Show Floor  
2:00–4:30pm Trade Show  
4:30–6:30pm Reception on the Show Floor

**Friday - February 8, 2013**

◆ Rochester Riverside Convention Center  
8:00am Trade Show opens  
8:30–10:00am Plenary Sessions  
10:00–10:30am Coffee Break on the Show Floor  
10:30am–12:00pm Breakout Sessions  
12:00–1:30pm Lunch on the Trade Show Floor  
1:30–3:00pm Breakout Sessions  
2:00pm Trade Show Closes  
3:00pm Monty Stamp Ice Cream Social  
3:30–5:00pm Breakout Sessions

## USDA Announces Public Information Meetings for the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claim Process



CONTACTS: Molly McDonough [717-237-2208](tel:717-237-2208)  
Jackie Stonfer [717-237-2133](tel:717-237-2133)

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*Harrisburg, PA, September 27, 2012*—The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will hold public information sessions in Pennsylvania for Hispanic and women farmers who allege USDA discrimination when seeking USDA farm loan assistance between 1981 and 2000. Agency directors will answer questions and discuss the Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers claims process.

The scheduled meetings are:

**October 2, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.**

Westmoreland County USDA Service Center  
214 Donohoe Center  
Greensburg, PA 15601

**October 2, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.**

Courtyard Pittsburgh  
Washington Meadowlands  
1800 Tanger Blvd.  
Washington, PA 15301

**October 4, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.**

Hampton Inn Meadville  
11446 Dawn Drive  
Meadville, PA 16335

**October 4, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.**

Courtyard by Marriott of Erie, PA  
7792 Peach Street  
Erie, PA 16509

**October 25, 2012,  
10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

Berks County USDA Service Center  
1238 County Welfare Road  
Leesport, PA 19533

**October 25, 2012  
10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

Lancaster County USDA Service Center  
1383 Arcadia Road  
Lancaster, PA 17601

On September 24, 2012, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the opening of a claims process for Hispanic or female farmers and ranchers who can prove that USDA denied their applications for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000.

"The opening of this claims process is part of USDA's ongoing efforts to correct the wrongs of the past and ensure fair treatment to all current and future customers," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

The claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

All those interested in learning more or receiving information about the claims process and claims packages are encouraged to attend meetings in your communities and contact the website or claims telephone number.

**Website:** [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

**Phone:** [1-888-508-4429](tel:1-888-508-4429)

**Claims Period:** September 24, 2012 - March 25, 2013.

For additional information about the meetings in Pennsylvania, or to make special accommodations requests, please call [717-237-2208](tel:717-237-2208), or [717-237-2133](tel:717-237-2133).  
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**PLEASE NOTE: Next Electronic Crop Update will be Thursday, October 25, 2012**

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Crop Update is an e-mail newsletter produced by the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program and sent out by subscription only. For subscription information, please call us at 716.792.2800 ext 201, or look for subscription forms at [http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/join\\_Lergp.htm](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/join_Lergp.htm).

For any questions or comments on the format of this update please contact Tim Weigle at: [thw4@cornell.edu](mailto:thw4@cornell.edu).

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Subscribe to Appellation Cornell Newsletter:

<http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/appellation-cornell/index.cfm>

2011 Appellation Cornell Newsletter Index:

<http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/appellation-cornell/2011-index.cfm>

Veraison to Harvest newsletters: <http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/veraison-to-harvest/index.cfm>

NY Grape & Wine Classifieds – New Address! - <http://flgclassifieds.cce.cornell.edu/>

This publication may contain pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may not be registered in all states, may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use should be directed to the appropriate extension agent or state regulatory agency. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell and Penn State Cooperative Extensions, and their employees, assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsements of products are made or implied.

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***Contact the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.***

**CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.**

***THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL***

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